

Little Ossipee Lake Association

PO Box 204 E. Waterboro, ME 04030

Little Ossipee Lake Association

2014 Annual Newsletter



E³ Preserve and Protect Little Ossipee Lake through
Education, Eradication, and Erosion control

Your 2014 LOLA Newsletter has arrived!

Visit us on the web at www.littleossipeelake.org



Join our Facebook group, Little Ossipee Lake

2014 Board of Directors:

President: Michael Taflas

Vice President: Stu Lamont

Secretary: Karen Cummings

Treasurer: Ed Doggett

Parliamentarian: Ross Dindio

Directors: Donna Taflas, Bob Labelle, Sandy Labelle, Barbara Lamont, John Cyr,
Bob Thomas, Dave Raye, Kevin Cunniff, Frank Gilcreast

Alternates: Lindsay Taflas, Nina Pralour



Photo: Roland Gendron

Lake Stewardship Program

LOLA has a Lake Stewardship program, now gaining momentum in its second year. By getting involved and joining this group of financial investors, you will be supporting the overall care and health of the lake, by allowing LOLA to focus on mission statement related endeavors. Your generous contribution will help to fund these important LOLA projects:

- Training of volunteers to become part of the IPP (Invasive Plant Patrol) team.
- Supporting the relationship between LOLA and the VLMP (Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program) and the YCSWCD (York County Soil and Water Conservation District).
- Purchasing proper buoys for boating safety.
- Identifying problem areas on the lake that need erosion control assistance.
- Expanding awareness and participation through events such as lake clean up day & annual meeting.

Becoming a Lake Steward is about *protecting* Little Ossipee Lake which currently has no invasive plant activity, and where the water quality is in the top 15% of the state of Maine. For years all our families have enjoyed the benefits of a clean lake and we would like to continue on this path. Please join us. LOLA has developed a beautiful flag that you can fly at your camp to show your support of this program when you make a donation of \$135.00 or more this year. Please help to maintain our beautiful Lake Community.

Membership Dues 2014

If you have already sent your dues, THANK YOU! If not, please send the completed form with your dues by July 30th.

Make checks payable to Little Ossipee Lake Association.

Mail to: Little Ossipee Lake Association, PO Box 240, E. Waterboro, ME 04030

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Lake Address: _____ Map/Lot # (if known): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dues per household: \$15.00 Scholarship Donation: \$ _____

If you would like to further support LOLA's mission with a tax deductible donation towards the Lake Stewardship program, please check the appropriate box and mail with your dues in the enclosed envelope. We appreciate your generosity.

THANK YOU!

\$50 \$135 \$250 other

Save the Date!

Lake Clean-up Day:

Saturday, June 28th 2014

Do your part to collect trash from around the lake starting at 10:00am

Meet at the public beach at 10:00am for photos and to pick up your trash bags.

Terry Hackett Memorial Boat Parade:

Friday, July 4th 2013

Theme: Participant's Choice!

Parade commences at 11:00am

Annual Meeting:

Saturday, August 9th 2014 at
Camp Laughing Loon

Yoga with Lindsay at 9:00am

Meeting at 11:00am

*Cookout/Social at 12:30pm

*Dance 7:30-10:00pm

*Bring your own beverage



Top: Director Dave Raye holding up trash collected from the shoreline.

Middle: President Mike Taflas and volunteer Jason Cyr pulling a tire out of the water at lake clean up day 2012.

Bottom: Lake residents attend the 2012 Annual Meeting.



Invasive Plant Patrol Team

By Dave Raye

The 2013 summer season was not as productive as I would have liked as far as monitoring the lake goes. I submitted four Lake Monitoring Reports for 2013 to Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP). VLMP developed waterproof plant Identification cards in order to make it easier to identify suspect aquatic plants in the field. LOLA purchased ten of these ID cards, at a cost of \$10.00 each, and distributed them to the IPP team. These cards are mounted on a carabiner so that additional cards may be added.

Since 2002 VLMP has trained thousands of volunteer invasive plant patrollers through their annual IPP workshops. LOLA needs to expand our current IPP team in order to ensure that Little Ossipee Lake is 100% monitored annually. The threat to this lake is very real due to the fact that Lake Arrowhead, which is heavily infested with the invasive aquatic plant "variable leaf milfoil, is only 30 feet away. If an infestation gets away from us, it will be extremely difficult to remove it. It is also a very expensive and time consuming operation. It is common knowledge that the presence of an invasive aquatic plant causes lake front property values to decrease, sometimes by as much as 20% just with the initial detection of a plant. We all have "skin in the game", including the municipality of Waterboro. If lake front property values decrease, the next evaluation cycle will reflect that decrease and other non-lake front property will see an increase in their property taxes in order to fund town expenditures.

Please help the LOLA IPP team in its effort to monitor Little Ossipee Lake in order to ensure that we preserve the pristine condition of the lake for future generations to come. It does not take allot of time to perform a survey, even if it's just in front of your own property. **fmi: contact Dave Raye @ raye@sacoriver.net or 247-8338**



Stay warm on those cool summer nights in a Little Ossipee Lake sweatshirt! Proceeds support ongoing care for the lake. Hats, tote bags, and t-shirts are available too.

Visit www.littleossipeelake.org to check out all the latest gear and to place an order!



Welcome Summer!

2014 Message from the President, Mike Taflas

When I originally wrote this message, we were in the clutches of winter. This has been one of the coldest winters I have witnessed, and in a strange way, I convinced myself that by writing the Presidents Message it would somehow ensure the arrival of spring and start the 2014 summer season on Little Ossipee Lake.



Sure enough, summer came! Along with the arrival of Summer your Little Ossipee lake Association (LOLA) is ready to ramp up for another season.

The annual membership due from is enclosed in this newsletter. LOLA is optimistic for another increase in our membership base this summer. As an existing LOLA member you can assist us by sending in your dues as soon as you receive this newsletter. You can also spread the word to make sure your non-member neighbors understand the importance and benefits of joining LOLA.

The annual lake water quality testing officially kicked off in May. Bob and Sandy LaBelle have been diligent about having testing meters updated, and ensuring lake water data is sent in each year.

Dave Raye continues to drive our Invasive Plant Patrollers team to inspect the lake and ensure we continue to be free of invasive species. If we do spot an invasive species, it is critical that we act quickly and swiftly to eradicate the species. The inspection activity around Ossipee Lake is labor intensive and Dave continues to be the resident expert. However, we need our lakefront home-owners to inspect their own shoreline and contact Dave or anyone on the LOLA association with anything that looks suspicious. This summer, Dave will be educating "inspectors" and "want to be inspectors" on Saturday, July 12th @ 10:00am hosted at the Taflas lake house on 310 Webber Road. Please arrive by boat, canoe, kayak (by car is fine too!) to learn simple practices on how to survey your own waterfront property.

Our Lake Clean up day will be held on Saturday, June 28th at 10:00am. Please arrive at the boat ramp for photos prior to kicking off this event. Depending on the number of volunteers, we will split into groups and survey the lake for trash. This is a great opportunity to get the lake cleaned up from the winter activities and prepared for the summer months.

The July 4th Boat Parade will not have a theme this year. We have had many request to stay away from a theme, many want to show their own creative talents to the judges this year. The sky is the limit!

We will again hold our Annual Meeting / Cook Out at Camp Laughing Loon on the Saturday, August 9th at 11:00am. That evening we will be dancing away to the music of Mirror Image which is a perfect way to close out a fun summer day. During this day, anyone interested in being a director should reach out to me and we can talk about the obligations and effort involved to be part of the team.

Thank you for your continued support and please feel free to contact us at: info@LittleOssipeeLake.org with any questions you might have regarding your LOLA organization and its activities.

See you on the Lake...

Water Quality Testing 2014

By Bob & Sandy Labelle

The Little Ossipee Lake Association in conjunction with the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection has collected valuable water quality monitoring data since 1977. The testing is done every two weeks from Ice Out in April through October. During this period, 35 years of Secchi Disc Transparencies (SDT) and basic chemical information have been collected.

SDT's are a direct measure of the water clarity and an indirect measure of algal growth. Unless a lake is highly colored or turbid from suspended sediment, transparency readings of 2 meters or less generally indicate a severe algal bloom. Little Ossipee Lake transparency readings are typically between 5.9 and 11.9 with an average reading of 8.2 meters. The basic chemical information includes water temperature and dissolved oxygen measurements at every meter down to twenty meters in the deepest part of the lake. Additionally, water samples are submitted to the state for Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-a monitoring. Testing proved the water quality of Little Ossipee Lake is considered to be excellent and the potential for nuisance algal blooms is also low.

Of the 2,314 Maine lakes classified as "Significant", 181 Maine lakes are classified as a Priority Watershed. These 181 lakes have water quality that is either impaired, or threatened due to pollution runoff resulting from land use activities in the watershed. Little Ossipee Lake is classified as a **Priority Watershed**. The Maine VLMP has also classified Little Ossipee Lake as a **Lake at Risk** as defined by the Maine storm-water management law. This law provides a higher level of protection from storm-water runoff by development activities within the Water-shed, and additional permitting is required for projects that disturb more than one acre of land within this area. For additional information you can visit the VLMP website at <http://www.mainevlmp.org/waterquality/>

On behalf of the Little Ossipee Lake Association, we would like to thank all of you for your support. It is through your membership that this important monitoring is possible. With everyone's help, our future generations may be able to enjoy our beautiful lake as we have.

Scholarship Winners

Haley Monroe will receive the \$500 Little Ossipee Lake scholarship. Haley is planning to attend the University of Rhode Island to earn a bachelors degree in Wildlife and Conservation Biology. She then hopes to earn a masters degree to obtain a job as a Wildlife Manager.

Tyler Everett will receive the \$500 Guy Litalien scholarship. Taylor is planning to attend the University of Maine Orono to earn a degree in Environmental Engineering. Taylor wants to minimize the environmental impact of big corporate business. Congratulations Haley and Tyler!

Annual Boat Parade Instructions

Before 11:00am: Pick up your number at Frank Salvo's dock down by the dam. (This is the usual location).

11:00am Parade Route: The path of the boat parade commences at Frank Salvo's dock. Once you have secured your number, your tour of the lake will take you to Bear Island (largest island on the lake) and you will see a barge anchored with a red star. When you approach the barge, show them your entry number and in turn, they will hand you a red star. Continue your ride to Camp Laughing Loon and just beyond the camp you will see a blue star at the end of a dock. Show your entry number and the red star, and in turn you will receive a blue star. You must have both stars to be considered for a prize. Continue to the judges station at Weymouth Point and be sure to dazzle the judges with all the spirit you've got! Sing, dance, and be merry—it's the 4th of

July! Please remember to respect boating laws, leave ample room between boats, stay safe, and have fun!



Participants in last year's 4th of July Parade.

